

Appendix table 8-30.

Public's access to computers from work and home, by selected characteristics: 1983–99 (selected years)

Characteristic	1983	1985	1988	1990	1995	1997	1999
Percent							
All adults							
No access	70	66	62	58	46	43	35
Home but not work	5	9	10	10	15	19	23
Work but not home	22	19	19	20	18	15	11
Work and home	3	6	9	12	21	23	31
Male							
No access	68	62	59	55	41	42	35
Home but not work	3	9	10	11	15	18	19
Work but not home	25	21	20	19	19	14	10
Work and home	4	8	11	15	25	26	36
Female							
No access	72	69	66	61	50	44	35
Home but not work	6	8	9	10	15	21	26
Work but not home	20	18	19	21	18	15	12
Work and home	2	5	6	8	17	20	27
Less than high school graduate							
No access	94	87	92	85	80	79	74
Home but not work	<1	6	5	6	8	16	17
Work but not home	5	7	3	8	10	2	5
Work and home	<1	0	0	1	2	3	5
High school graduate							
No access	66	65	58	55	42	40	30
Home but not work	6	9	12	12	18	21	26
Work but not home	25	21	23	22	20	18	13
Work and home	3	5	7	11	20	21	31
Baccalaureate and higher							
No access	47	40	33	29	18	12	8
Home but not work	6	10	10	12	15	20	19
Work but not home	39	33	31	29	22	18	12
Work and home	8	17	26	30	45	50	61
Attentive public for science and technology^a							
No access	61	56	50	44	31	34	31
Home but not work	7	10	14	15	19	24	23
Work but not home	22	23	20	16	13	12	7
Work and home	10	11	16	25	37	30	39
Sample size							
All adults	631	2,005	2,041	2,033	2,006	2,000	1,882
Male	775	950	958	964	953	930	900
Female	856	1,054	1,084	1,070	1,053	1,070	982
Less than high school graduate	404	507	530	495	418	420	403
High school graduate	941	1,147	1,158	1,202	1,196	1,188	1,111
Baccalaureate and higher	282	349	353	336	392	392	368
Attentive public to science & technology ^a	208	235	233	229	195	288	216

NOTE: In 1985, 1988, 1990, 1995, 1997, and 1999, the question was worded, "Do you use a computer in your work? About how many hours do you personally use your work computer in a typical week? Do you presently have a home computer in your household? About how many hours do you personally use your home computer in a typical week? In 1983, the question was worded, "Do you use computers or word processing equipment in your work?..."

^aTo be classified as attentive to a given policy area, an individual must indicate that he or she is "very interested" in that issue area, report that he or she is "very well informed" about it, and be a regular reader of a daily newspaper or relevant national magazine. Citizens who report that they are "very interested" in an issue area, but who do not think that they are "very well informed" about it, are classified as the "interested public." All other individuals are classified as members of the "residual public" for that issue area. The attentive public for science and technology combines the attentive public for new scientific discoveries and the attentive public for new inventions and technologies. Any individual who is not attentive to either of those issues but who is a member of the interested public for at least one of those issues is classified as a member of the interested public for science and technology. All other individuals are classified as members of the residual public for science and technology.

SOURCES: National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resource Studies (NSF/SRS), *NSF Survey of Public Attitudes Toward and Understanding of Science and Technology, 1999* (and earlier years). For a complete set of data from the survey, see J.D. Miller and L. Kimmel, *Public Attitudes Toward Science and Technology, 1979–1999, Integrated Codebook* (Chicago: International Center for the Advancement of Scientific Literacy, Chicago Academy of Sciences, 1999); and unpublished tabulations.

See figures 8-16 and 8-19 in Volume 1.